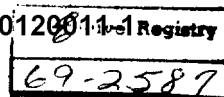


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OLC 69-0419

19 May 1969

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of Central Intelligence

SUBJECT: Senator William Proxmire (D., Wis.)

1. In connection with your meeting with Senator Proxmire at 3:00 p.m. on Tuesday, 20 May, I am attaching for your background use a biographic sketch on the Senator and a list of the members of the full Joint Economic Committee as well as the Subcommittee on Economy in Government to which he refers in his letter of 12 May to you. I am also including an excerpt from the Committee Resolution which outlines its charter.

2. Several points may be worthy of note:

a. The only appearance by a Director of Central Intelligence in an open session of any congressional committee was made by Allen Dulles in 1960, when he was the lead witness in Joint Economic Committee hearings on the U.S. and Soviet economies.

b. The Agency has assisted the Committee over the years in providing economic studies and papers which have been included in numerous Committee publications.

c. The Joint Economic Committee under Proxmire's chairmanship has been looking into government programs of major monetary importance.

d. As indicated in his letter to you, the Senator is very much concerned with national economic priorities. This stems largely from his concern over the present tax structure and the tremendous pressure which he and other members of Congress are receiving on this subject.

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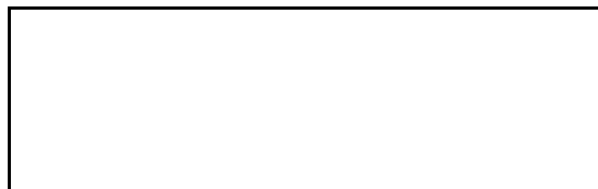


f. There is speculation that Proxmire may be opposed in the next election by Melvin Laird. Proxmire obviously is aware of this and is looking for campaign issues involving the Defense establishment. He feels that the Pentagon has not been truthful with him in his C5A inquiry and it appears that he intends to press this point.

g. It is clear that Proxmire would like to point out what he considers to be the endless escalation of defense expenditures in the Soviet Union as well as in the U.S. in order to somehow bring an end to what he feels is a disastrous course. His feelings in this regard appear to be very similar to those of Senator Symington.

3. It would seem that there is little to be gained by briefing the Joint Economic Committee in executive session and there is the distinct possibility of your becoming embroiled in a running battle between Senator Proxmire and the Department of Defense if you do. Bill Woodruff and others consider the Senator a reasonable individual, except in the areas mentioned, and he may be willing to drop his request when you discuss the situation with him.

4. You may want to take this opportunity to point out the problems created by public speculation on the size of the Agency's budget, using the Senator's recent encounter with this situation on the Today Show as an example.



25X1A

Deputy Legislative Counsel

Attachment

SECRET

JOINT ECONOMIC COMMITTEE

Representative Wright Patman (D., Tex.) Chairman
Senator William Proxmire, (D., Wis.) Vice Chairman

SENATORS

John Sparkman (D., Ala.)	Jacob K. Javits (R., N. Y.)
J. W. Fulbright (D., Ark.)	Jack Miller (R., Iowa)
Herman E. Talmadge (D., Ga.)	Len B. Jordan (R., Idaho)
Stuart Symington (D., Mo.)	Charles H. Percy (R., Ill.)
Abraham Ribicoff (D., Conn.)	

REPRESENTATIVES

Richard Bolling (D., Mo.)	William B. Widnall (R., N. J.)
Hale Boggs (D., La.)	Donald Rumsfield (R., Ill.)
Henry Reuss (D., Wis.)	W. E. Brock (R., Tenn.)
Martha W. Griffiths (D., Mich.)	Barber B. Conable, Jr. (R., N. Y.)
William S. Moorhead (D., Pa.)	

John R. Stark - Executive Director

SUBCOMMITTEE ON ECONOMY IN GOVERNMENT

Senator William Proxmire (D., Wis.) Chairman

SENATORS

John Sparkman (D., Ala.)	Len B. Jordan (R., Idaho)
Stuart Symington (D., Mo.)	Charles H. Percy (R., Ill.)

REPRESENTATIVES

Wright Patman (D., Tex.)	Donald Rumsfield (R., Ill.)
Martha W. Griffiths (D., Mich.)	Barber B. Conable, Jr. (R., N. Y.)
William S. Moorhead (D., Pa.)	

EXCERPT FROM JOINT ECONOMIC COMMITTEE RESOLUTION

" . . . It shall be the function of the joint committee -- (1) To make a continuing study of matters relating to the Economic Report; (2) to study means of coordinating programs in order to further the policy of this Act; /Employment Act of 1946/ and (3) as a guide to the several committees of the Congress dealing with legislation relating to the Economic Report, not later than March 1, of each year (beginning with the year 1947) to file a report with the Senate and the House of Representatives containing its findings and recommendations with respect to each of the main recommendations made by the President in the Economic Report, and from time to time to make other reports and recommendations to the Senate and House of Representatives as it deems advisable. "

SENDER WILL CHECK CLASSIFICATION TOP AND BOTTOM			
UNCLASSIFIED		CONFIDENTIAL	
OFFICIAL ROUTING SLIP			
TO	NAME AND ADDRESS	DATE	INITIALS
1	The Director		<i>mt</i>
2	<i>DoI</i>		<i>KS</i>
3	<i>Leg. Counsel</i>		<i>gr</i>
4			
5	<i>file: JCE</i>		
6			
	ACTION	DIRECT REPLY	PREPARE REPLY
	APPROVAL	DISPATCH	RECOMMENDATION
	COMMENT	FILE	RETURN
	CONCURRENCE	INFORMATION	SIGNATURE
Remarks: <i>1 to 2+3</i> <i>To make a long story short, Proxmire agreed to ship testimony from me. He will call someone from State. I agreed to help the State man with material for his testimony. Please let me</i>			
FOLD HERE TO RETURN TO SENDER			
FROM: NAME, ADDRESS AND PHONE NO.			DATE
Office of Legislative Counsel 7D 43			19 May 69
UNCLASSIFIED		CONFIDENTIAL	

The Director met with Senator Proxmire on 20 May 1969